

BLYTHEWOOD MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

7TH GRADE

FIRST QUARTER

- **Instrument Review of Basic Skills (Ex. 2-25)**
 - Instrument Position
 - Left and Right Hand Position Review
 - Dorian, Phrygian Tetrachord Etudes
 - C Major Scale Review
 - Bowing Variations: Template, A, I (minus dynamic markings)
- **Rhythms I: Dotted Half and Dotted Quarter Notes (Ex. 26-47)**
 - Student-created compositions with new rhythm
 - Review: Bowing Variations A-D
- **Sharp Keys (Ex. 48-66)**
 - Major Tetrachord Etude
 - A Major Scale
- **Sight-Reading**
 - Grade 1 literature
- **Cultural Connections**
 - Composers/Overview of Musical Time Periods
 - Comparisons of Disciplines and Styles

SECOND QUARTER

- **Rhythms II: Sixteenths, Dotted Eighths, and Syncopation (Ex. 67-91)**
 - Bowing Variations F-H, J-L
- **Concert Unit I**
 - Concert Piece #1: Grade 1
 - Concert Piece #2: Grade 2
 - Concert Piece #3: Grade 2
 - Scale Review: C, G, D, A Major Scales
- **Major Flat Keys (Ex. 92-114)**
 - Lydian and Flat-1 Major Tetrachord Etudes
 - F Major Scale
 - B-Flat Major Scale
- **Sight-Reading**
 - Grade 1+ literature
- **Cultural Connections**
 - Composers/Overview of Musical Time Periods
 - Comparisons of Disciplines and Styles

THIRD QUARTER

- **Minor Flat Keys (Ex. 125-132)**
 - D and G Natural Minor Scales
 - D and G Melodic Minor Scales
- **Concert Unit II**
 - Concert Piece #1: Grade 2
 - Concert Piece #2: Grade 2
 - Scale Review: Bb, F, C, G, D, A Major; G and D Melodic Minor
- **Rhythms III: Triplets (Ex. 136-142) and 6/8 Time (Ex. 115-124)**
 - Tetrachord Etude: Any mode
- **Sight-Reading**
 - Grade 2-2+ literature
- **Cultural Connections**
 - Composers/Overview of Musical Time Periods
 - Comparisons of Disciplines and Styles

FOURTH QUARTER

- **Finishing Touches**
 - Bow Distribution: Bowing Variations: I-L
 - Dynamics and Tempo Markings
 - Advanced Rhythm Review: F-H
- **Concert Performance Unit III**
 - Concert Piece #1: Grade 2
 - Concert Piece #2: Grade 2
 - Concert Piece #3: Grade 3
 - Scale Review: Eb, Bb, F, C, G, D, A Major; G and D Melodic Minor
- **Final Review and Exit Exam**
 - Mixed Meter (Ex. 133-135)
 - Cut Time (Ex. 143-155)
 - Scale Review: Eb, Bb, F, C, G, D, A Major; G and D Melodic Minor
 - Bowing Variations A-L
 - Major-Lydian Tetrachord Études
- **Sight-Reading**
 - Grade 2+ literature
- **Cultural Connections**
 - Composers/Overview of Musical Time Periods
 - Comparisons of Disciplines and Styles